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Executive Summary

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Statement on the derivation of a health-based guidance value for antimony First draft statement

Secretariat

April 2025

Executive Summary

- 1. Post European Union (EU) exit, the Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) is reviewing the regulatory standards for some chemicals in drinking water, including antimony. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) sought advice of the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment (COT) with respect to an appropriate health-based guidance value (HBGV) for antimony.
- 2. The World Health Organization (WHO), the US Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and Health Canada have used the same study (Poon et al., 1998) to derive different HBGVs. The differences are primarily due to variations in the interpretation of the study findings, particularly in the choice of the No Observed Adverse Effect Level (NOAEL).
- 3. The COT agreed that the Poon et al. (1998) study was the most appropriate study to use to derive a HBGV for antimony. The COT determined that the NOAEL of 6,000 micrograms per kilogram of body weight per day (μ g/kg bw/day), based on decreased body weight gain and reduced food and water consumption in adult rats, was the point of departure. An uncertainty factor (UF) of 300 was recommended, resulting in a tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 20 μ g Sb/kg bw/day as a HBGV for antimony.

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Background and scope of discussion

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- 4. The UKHSA advises the DWI on potential health risks from chemicals in drinking water. Post EU exit, the DWI is reviewing the regulatory standards for some chemicals in drinking water, including antimony. UKHSA sought advice from the COT with respect to an appropriate HBGV for antimony, which would inform the consideration of an appropriate drinking water regulatory limit for antimony.
- 5. The COT has previously reviewed the dietary exposure to antimony in infants and young children aged 4 to 18 months as part of the 2014 survey of metals and other elements in infant foods (COT, 2017). The COT has also reviewed dietary exposure to antimony in various population subgroups as part of the 2006 UK Total Diet study of metals and other elements (COT, 2006). For these reviews, the COT used the WHO TDI of 6 μ g/kg bw/day for the evaluation (WHO, 2003).
- 6. More recently Health Canada (2024) and ATSDR (2019) have considered antimony and derived lower HBGVs. WHO, ATSDR and Health Canada all derived their HBGVs from the same study (Poon et al., 1998), however, they diverge in their interpretation of the study results and the selection of the NOAEL.
- 7. Two antimony discussion papers (TOX/2024/38 and TOX/2025/04) were presented to the COT at the October 2024 and February 2025 meetings respectively. The COT assessed the Poon et al. (1998) study and its interpretations, as well as other available evidence in order to determine an appropriate HBGV to support an update to the antimony drinking water standard in the UK.

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Properties of antimony and sources in drinking wate

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8. Antimony (Sb, CAS number: 7440-36-0) is a silvery white metal naturally present in the Earth's crust (Sundar and Chakravarty, 2010). The most common source of antimony in drinking water appears to be dissolution from metal plumbing and fittings (WHO, 2003). Antimony compounds can exist in trivalent (Sb³+) and pentavalent (Sb⁵+) states, with trivalent antimony being considered more toxic than pentavalent antimony. In drinking water, pentavalent antimony is the more prevalent form of antimony. However, some evidence suggests that both can coexist and cycle between each other under certain conditions (Health Canada, 2024). For further information on the properties of antimony, see TOX/2024/38 and TOX/2025/04.

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Oral toxicity data for antimony - Annex 1 to TOX/2025/23

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Poon et al. 1998 study and interpretation

- 9. In the study by Poon et al. (1998), groups of 15 male and 15 female Sprague-Dawley rats were exposed to 0, 0.5, 5, 50, or 500 parts per million (ppm) antimony as antimony potassium tartrate (APT, 99.95% pure) in drinking water for 13 weeks. Based on average water consumption and body weight data, the investigators calculated antimony doses of 0, 60, 560, 5,580 and 42,170 μ g/kg bw/day in males and 0, 60, 640, 6,130 and 45,690 μ g/kg bw/day in females. An additional group of 10 male and 10 female rats was exposed to 0 or 500 ppm (0 and 42,170 μ g/kg bw/day for males and 45,690 μ g/kg bw/day for females) for 13 weeks followed by a 4-week recovery period.
- 10. A dose-dependent reduction (15–17%) in serum glucose levels in females exposed to doses greater than or equal to 640 μ g Sb/kg bw/day was observed. Lower glucose values were also observed in the males; however, these were not statistically different from controls.

- 11. Other toxicological endpoints were identified by the study at the highest antimony doses in males and females (42,170 or 45,690 μ g Sb/kg bw/day). These included a decrease in water and food consumption, a decrease in body weight gain (significant in males starting at week 6 and females at week 12), haematological changes which differed between males and females, decreases in serum creatinine levels and alkaline phosphatase levels, and liver effects including changes in activity of some liver enzymes such as ethoxyresorufin-O-deethylase (EROD) and glutathione-S-transferase (GST).
- 12. Anisokaryosis in the liver was observed in all antimony-exposed groups, with a dose-related increase in the severity observed.
- 13. Other hepatic effects included an increase in hepatocellular portal density in all antimony-exposed groups, but this was considered mild in males and females at greater than or equal to 560 and 640 μ g Sb/kg bw/day respectively. Minimal nuclear hyperchromicity was also observed at these levels but with no consistent dose-response relationship.
- 14. In terms of skeletal effects, an increase in myeloid hyperplasia in the bone marrow was observed at \geq 5,580 µg Sb/kg bw/day in males and \geq 640 µg Sb/kg bw/day in females.
- 15. Spleen effects included sinus congestion at \geq 560 µg Sb/kg bw/day in males, sinus hyperplasia at 42,170 µg Sb/kg bw/day in males and \geq 640 µg Sb/kg bw/day in females and arterial cuff atrophy at 42,170 µg Sb/kg bw/day in males. In the recovery period, increases in incidence of sinus congestion (males only), arterial cuff atrophy, periarteriolar lymphocyte sheath cell density and sinus haematopoiesis were observed.
- 16. The study authors concluded 0.5 ppm antimony in drinking water, equivalent to an average intake of 60 μ g Sb/kg bw/day, as the NOAEL for this study, primarily based on the statistically significant dose-dependent decrease in serum glucose levels in females at \geq 640 μ g Sb/kg bw/day.
- 17. Lynch et al. (1999) reviewed the Poon et al. (1998) study and provided an alternative interpretation of the observed toxicological effects. The authors stated that the observed effects at lower doses were either adaptive or non-toxicological in nature. They considered that some of the histological findings, particularly in the liver, spleen and thyroid, should not be considered toxicologically relevant and proposed a higher NOAEL. Lynch et al. (1999) proposed that the NOAEL for the study should be set at 50 ppm, equivalent to an

average intake of 6,000 Sb μ g/kg bw/day, based on the finding of decreased body weight gain and decreased food and water consumption at the 500 ppm dose level (though they stated that these effects may be due to the nonpalatability of the drinking water).

18. Valli et al. (2000), from the same group as Poon et al. (1998), maintained that the NOAEL of 60 μ g/kg bw/day, as identified by Poon et al. (1998), was appropriate given the observed liver and spleen histology and serum biochemistry alterations. Valli et al. (2000) stated that the higher NOAEL of 6,000 μ g/kg bw/day proposed by Lynch et al. (1999) underestimated the potential for early signs of toxicity and was not sufficiently protective.

Further oral antimony studies with NOAELs less than 6000 µg/kg bw/day

- 19. Marmo et al. (1987), Rossi et al. (1987) and Angrisani et al. (1988) reported findings from an antimony exposure study in NOS Albino normotensive rats.
- 20. Rossi et al. (1987) reported a NOAEL in maternal rats of 70 μ g Sb/kg bw/day. This was due to a significant dose-dependent decrease in maternal body weight by gestation day 20 following prenatal oral exposure to antimony trichloride. It should be noted, however, that basal maternal body weights for each treatment group on day 0 of gestation prior to exposure were approximately 7% lower than the control group. Thus, the reported 8 to 10% deficit (in the lowand high- dose groups respectively) from controls seen on gestation day 20 represents a relatively small change from the 7% deficit at the start of gestation. The pup lowest observed adverse effect level (LOAEL) was reported as 700 μ g Sb/kg bw/day due to decreases in body weight (Rossi et al., 1987).
- 21. Additional findings reported by Marmo et al. (1987) noted decreased vasomotor reactivity due to both prenatal and postnatal oral exposure to antimony trichloride. Additional findings reported by Angrisani et al. (1988) showed postnatal exposure to antimony trichloride did not affect maternal or pup body weights or systolic arterial blood pressure.
- 22. In a study conducted by Kanisawa and Schroeder (1969), life term oral exposure to 5 ppm antimony as potassium tartrate (equivalent to 350 μ g Sb/kg bw/day) in mice did not result in a significant difference in the incidences of spontaneous tumours or malignant tumours compared to controls. The authors

identified 350 µg Sb/kg bw/day as the NOAEL for this study.

- 23. In a lifetime exposure study conducted by Schroeder et al. (1970), a significant reduction in survival rates and reduced non-fasting glucose levels were identified when rats were exposed to 430 μ g Sb/kg bw/day potassium tartrate in their drinking water. The authors reported a LOAEL of 430 μ g Sb/kg bw/day based on these effects.
- 24. Annex A provides further detail on the available antimony toxicity studies with comments on the Committees consideration of the reported NOAELs.

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HBGVs established by WHO, ATSDR and Health Canada

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- 25. WHO selected a NOAEL of 6,000 μ g Sb/kg bw/day from the Poon et al. (1998) study, as recommended by Lynch et al. (1999), for decreased body weight gain and reduced food and water intake. A UF of 1,000 (100 for interspecies and intraspecies differences and 10 for the short duration of the study) was applied to the NOAEL resulting in the TDI of 6.0 μ g/kg bw/day (WHO 2003).
- 26. ATSDR selected a NOAEL of 60 μ g Sb/kg bw/day for decreases in serum glucose levels in female rats observed in the Poon et al. (1998). A UF of 100 (10 for extrapolation from animals to humans and 10 for human variability) was applied to derive an intermediate-duration (15 365 days) oral Minimal Risk Level (MRL) of 0.6 μ g/kg bw/day (ATSDR 2019).
- 27. Health Canada also selected a NOAEL of 60 μ g Sb /kg bw/day from the study by Poon et al. (1998), based on observed histopathological changes in the liver (anisokaryosis) and alterations in serum biochemistry indicative of liver effects. A UF of 300 was applied (10 for interspecies variation, 10 for intraspecies variation and 3 for the use of a subchronic study) resulting in a TDI of 0.2 μ g/kg bw/day (Health Canada, 2024).
- 28. More information on the derivation of the HBGVs for WHO, ATSDR and Health Canada is available in the COT discussion paper TOX/2024/38.

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- 29. The COT determined that the effects on serum glucose levels in female rats observed in Poon et al. (1998), which informed the NOAELs selected by ATSDR and Health Canada, showed limited dose-response. The Committee also noted that an intraperitoneal study by the National Toxicology Program (NTP) which examined antimony at higher doses and with greater bioavailability did not observe these effects (NTP 1992).
- 30. The Committee further agreed that the liver changes observed in Poon et al. (1998), which also informed the NOAEL selected by Health Canada, were minor and not indicative of adverse effects as there was no evidence of increase in liver weight across a large range of doses. The changes in the levels of liver enzymes were deemed to be minor and inconsistent with a hepatotoxic effect. The Poon et al. (1998) study showed no clear evidence of changes in thyroid hormone effects and there was also difficulty in interpreting spleen findings due to high background variation and the findings were not considered to be of toxicological significance.
- 31. The Committee agreed with the Lynch et al. (1999) interpretation that the significant body weight changes observed at the highest dose in Poon et al. (1998) was critical effect. Therefore, the COT determined a NOAEL of 6,000 μ g/kg bw/day for this study.
- 32. With respect to other oral studies with doses less than the NOAEL determined by COT for the Poon et al. (1998) study, the COT noted that the baseline maternal body weight in the study by Rossi et al. (1987) at gestation day 0 was approximately 7% lower in treated groups compared to controls. Consequently, the observed 8–10% reduction in maternal body weight at gestation day 20 used as the basis for the maternal NOAEL was considered a relatively small change, given the pre-existing baseline differences. The Committee noted that the NTP intraperitoneal study observed body weight effects only at the highest dose (9,600 μ g Sb/kg bw/day).

- 33. The COT further observed that while decreased pup body weight was reported in the Rossi et al. (1987) study in the high dose group, the investigation by Angrisani et al. (1998) antimony exposure found no significant changes in pup body weight. With the lower initial maternal body weights in the treated groups reported in the Rossi et al. (1987) study, it was suggested that the observed lower body weight in prenatally exposed pups could be secondary to the lower maternal body weights of this group rather than a direct effect of antimony on pups. For these reasons, the lower NOAEL and LOAEL (when compared to the 6,000 μ g Sb/kg bw/day NOAEL from the Poon et al. (1998) study) relating to maternal and pup body weight reported in the Rossi et al. (1987) study were discounted.
- 34. There were concerns regarding the reliability of the studies by Kanisawa and Schroeder (1969) and Schroeder (1970) and challenges interpreting their data. Furthermore, the nature of these studies does not allow for the demonstration of a dose-response, therefore the NOAELs and LOAELs reported in these studies were also discounted.

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Overall Conclusion

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- 35. Overall, the COT concluded that the NOAEL of $6{,}000~\mu g$ Sb/kg bw/day, from the Poon et al. (1998) study based on decreased body weight gain and reduced food and water consumption in adult rats, was the appropriate point of departure to use as the basis of a HBGV for antimony.
- 36. The Committee also highlighted that the pentavalent form of antimony, which is predominant in drinking water, exhibits lower toxicity compared to the trivalent form. As Poon et al. (1998) utilized the trivalent form of antimony (antimony potassium tartrate) in their study, a HBGV derived from the NOAEL of 6,000 μ g Sb/kg bw/day was considered a sufficiently protective for antimony in drinking water.
- 37. The Committee recommended a UF of 300, comprising a factor of 10 for interspecies variation, 10 for intraspecies variation, and 3 for subchronic to chronic extrapolation. This results in a TDI of 20 µg Sb/kg bw/day.

COT Month 2025

Statement 2025/XX

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List of abbreviations and their full meanings

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μg Sb/kg bw/day	Micrograms of antimony per kilogram of body weight per day
APT	Antimony Potassium Tartrate
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
bw	Body Weight
СОТ	Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment
DWI	Drinking Water Inspectorate
EROD	Ethoxyresorufin-O-deethylase
EU	European Union
GST	Glutathione-S-transferase
HBGV	Health-based guidance value
LOAEL	Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level - the lowest dose in a study at which adverse effect(s) are observed.

mg Milligram

μg Microgram

Minimal Risk Level - an estimate of the daily human exposure to a substance that is likely to be without appreciable risk of adverse non-cancer health effects over a specified duration of exposure

NOAEL NO Observed Adverse Effect Level - the highest administered dose at which no adverse effect has been observed.

NTP National Toxicology Program

POD Point of Departure

ppm Parts per million

Sb Antimony

Tolerable Daily Intake - an estimate of the amount of a contaminant,

TDI expressed on a body weight basis (e.g., mg/kg body weight) that can
be ingested over a lifetime without appreciable health risk.

UF Uncertainty factor

UKHSA United Kingdom Health Security Agency

WHO World Health Organization

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Statement on the derivation of a health-based guidance value for antimony to support development of UK Drinking Water Standards

Table 1. Summary of antimony toxicity studies and comments on the derived ${\sf NOAELs.}$

				No observed	
Author and year	Study details	Dose level	Findings	adverse	Comments
		Dose level		effect level	the NOAEL
				(NOAEL)	

Dose-dependent decrease in serum glucose levels in females at ≥640 µg Sb/kg bw/day.
Decrease also noted in males but not statistically significant.

decrease in

water and food consumption, a decrease in body weight gain (significant in males starting at week 6 and females at week 12), haematological changes which differed between males and females. decreases in serum creatinine levels and alkaline phosphatase levels, and liver effects including changes to liver enzyme activity all observed at the highest antimony dose (42,170/45,690 μg Sb/kg bw/day in males and

females

Species:

Sprague-Dawley rats.

Route of exposure:
Oral-Drinking water.

Initial Study Original

Dose: 0, 0.5, 5, 50, or 500 ppm antimony potassium

Poon et al. (1998) recommend NOAEL: NOA is based on

levels in females at ≥640 µg Sb/bw/day. However, the Committee determined these effects showed limit dose-respons

The Committ

noted that a

Prenatal and **Postnatal** exposure:

Decreased antihypotensive response to norepinephrine and hypotensive response to isoprenaline at both dose levels in 60-day old rats. The hypotensive response to acetylcholine was decreased at the highest dose of antimony trichloride in 60day old rats.

No change in antihypotensive or hypotensive responses was seen in 30-day old rats.

Postnatal

exposure: - 60day-old offspring in the high-dose group showed reduced antihypotensive

responses to carotid artery occlusion and norepinephrine injection, as well

70 µg Sb/kg bw/day.

See Rossi et

Pup LOAEL: 700 (1987)

μg Sb/kg bw/day.

Species: NOS

Albino normotensive rats.

Route of exposure:

Oral-Drinking water.

Study duration:

Maternal exposure: -1st day of pregnancy until weaning (22nd day after delivery) or from PND1 to PND 22.

70 and 700 μg Sb/kg bw/day. Pups: - From

Original

10 mg/L

antimony

trichloride.

Recalculated

Dose Levels:

Dose: 1 and

Marmo et al. (1987)

> weaning until 30 or 60 days

of age.

No/Sovi 20

as reduced

responses to

hypotensive

Species: NOS

Albino normotensive rats.

Route of exposure:

Oral-Drinking water.

Study duration:

Prenatal: 1st day of

pregnancy Rossi et al. until weaning (22nd day

(1987)

Both doses:

Maternal body weight decreased significantly in a dose-dependent manner by the 20th day of gestation.

Original Dose High dose: Pups

: 1 and 10 mg/L antimony BW; No trichloride.

Recalculated assault

had decreased macroscopic teratogenic

Maternal NOAEL: 70 μg Sb/kg bw/day. Pun I OAFI · 700 maternal boo

decrease in maternal boo weight by gestation da 20 following prenatal oral antimony exposure. Th COT noted th the baseline maternal boo weight in the study by Ros et al. (1987) gestation da was approximate 7% lower in treated grou compared to controls. Consequentl the observed 8-10% reduction in maternal boo weight at gestation da 20 used as tl basis for the maternal NO was consider a relatively small change given the pre existing baseline differences. With the low

NOAEL is bas

dependent

on dose-

Route of Angrisani et al. (1987)PND60. **No/Sex:** 30 per group

Species: NOS Albino normotensive rats.

Rat offspring:

group, equal

- 10 pups/

sex ratio.

exposure: **Original** Oral-Drinking Dose: 1 and water. 10 mg/L antimony Study trichloride. duration: Postnatal:

Recalculated From PND1 to **Dose Levels:** 70 and 700 μg Sb/kg bw/day

Postnatal exposure to antimony trichloride did not affect maternal or pup body weights or systolic arterial blood pressure.

No macroscopic teratogenic effects have been observed.

Antimony exposure did not significantly affect the length of gestation, and number of

newborns per litter.

Maternal

NOAEL: 70 μg

Sb/kg bw/day. See Rossi et

Pup LOAEL: 700 ⁽¹⁹⁸⁷⁾

μg Sb/kg bw/day.

Species: Mice
(White Swiss,
Charles River
CD-1).

Kanisawa and Schroeder (1969)

Route of exposure: Oral-Drinking water.

Tartrate.

bw/day.

Study duration:Lifetime exposure.

No/Sex: Control mice -

71; Antimony treatment – 76.

significant
differences in the
incidences of
spontaneous
tumors and
malignant
tumors did not
appear.

Compared to

control,

Recalculated
Dose Level:

shorter life spans bw/day.
when given
antimony than
their controls.

Female mice had 350 µg Sb/kg

Fatty degeneration of liver noticed in both control (22.2%) and antimony fed groups (15.9 %). The COT rais concerns regarding the reliability of data and challenges interpreting data.
Furthermore the nature of

this study do not allow for demonstration of a doseresponse, therefore the NOAEL was discounted.

Negligible effects on growth and mature weight. Antimony was not tumorigenic.

Decrease in survival rate. Antimony, however, was innately toxic, males surviving 106 days and females 107 days less than the controls at median life spans, and 70 and 165 days less when 90% were dead; Hearts of males fed antimony weighed 18.9% less than their respective controls. whereas the hearts of females Dose: 5 ppm - weighed 3.5%

Decreased nonfasting serum **Recalculated** glucose levels.

more.

Non fasting glucose levels were lower than fasting ones in the antimony

group.

Glycosuria was

found in 23% of

90 controls 43%

LOAEL: 430 μg Sb/kg bw/day.

The COT rais concerns regarding the reliability of data and challenges interpreting ' data. **Furthermore**

the nature of this study do not allow for demonstration of a doseresponse, therefore the LOAEL was

discounted.

Species:

Long Evan Rats.

Route of

exposure: **Oral-Drinking**

water.

Study duration: 2 years.

Schroeder

et al.

(1970)

No/Sex: Not reported.

Original

Antimony Potassium

Tartrate (APT).

Dose Level:

430 μg Sb/kg bw/day.

	Species:		High dose: Body weights were reduced by about 10% compared to controls (not	
	B6C3F1 Mice	COE1 Mico	statistically	
	2003. 2	Original	significant).	
NTP (1992)	Route of exposure: Intraperitoneal injection. Study duration: 13 weeks. No/Sex: 10 Males per group. 10 Females per group.	Dose: 0, 1.5, 3, 6, 12 and 24 mg/kg antimony potassium tartrate; 3 times per week. Recalculated Dose Levels: 0, 600, 1,200, 2,400, 4,800 and 9,600 µg Sb/kg bw/day.	Hematological analyses revealed decreases in red blood cell counts and hemoglobin of both sexes of high-dose mice at week 7 and again at week 13 for the red blood cell counts. In association with these changes was increased absolute and relative spleen	4,800 μg bw/day.
			weight.	

The dose wa given intraperitone therefore thi study was no used for the determination of the appropriate NOAEL for or antimony consumption

Mortality was observed in 4 of 10 male rats in the highest dose groups.

A reduction in body weight was seen in both male (18%) and female (11%) rats from these groups.

Species:

F344/N rats.

Original

Dose: 0, 1.5,

exposure:

Route of

3, 6, 12 and 24 groups

Intraperitoneal mg/kg

injection.

antimony potassium tartrate; 3

weeks.

NTP (1992)

times per week.

Study duration: 13

No/Sex:

10 Males per group.

10 Females

per group.

Recalculated **Dose Levels:** 0, 600, 1,200,

2,400, 4,800

and 9,600 µg

Sb/kg bw/day.

Relative liver weight was increased in male and female rats from all dose

(maximum increase of 20%

for males and

40% for females

at 9600 µg Sb/kg 1,200 µg Sb/kg used for the

bw/day). bw/day.

Dose-related increases in serum alanine

aminotransferase

and sorbitol

dehydrogenase

were also

observed in male

and female rats.

Hepatocellular

degeneration and necrosis

were observed in

male rats and in

female rats.

Kidney

The dose wa given intraperitone therefore thi

study was no

determination

of the

appropriate

NOAEL for or

antimony

consumption

	Original Dose : Metallic	antimony high dose: decreased body weight gain.	
Species: Wistar rats. Route of	Antimony: 0, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0%. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 1.0, 2.0%.	Metallic antimony high dose: decreased hematocrit and hemoglobin.	
exposure: Oral-Feeding. Study duration: 24 weeks. No/Sex: 5 per dose.	Recalculated Dose Levels: Metallic Antimony: 0, 500,000, 1,000,000, 2,000,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 418,000, 836,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day.	Antimony trioxide all dose: decreased erythrocyte levels.	L µ b
		antimony mid and high dose: slight cloudy swelling in hepatic cords. Antimony trioxide all dose: slight cloudy	
	Wistar rats. Route of exposure: Oral-Feeding. Study duration: 24 weeks. No/Sex: 5 per	: Metallic Antimony: 0, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0%. Species: Wistar rats. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 1.0, 2.0%. Route of exposure: Oral-Feeding. Study duration: 24 weeks. No/Sex: 5 per dose. Metallic Antimony: 0, 500,000, 1,000,000, 1,000,000, 2,000,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 418,000, 836,000 µg	Original Dose : Metallic Antimony: 0, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0%. Species: Wistar rats. Route of exposure: Oral-Feeding. Study duration: 24 weeks. No/Sex: 5 per dose. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 1.000,000, No/Sex: 5 per dose. Antimony: 0, 500,000, 1,000,000, No/Sex: 5 per dose. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 1,000,000 µg Antimony mid and high dose: slight cloudy swelling in hepatic cords. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 418,000, 836,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 418,000, 836,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day. Antimony Trioxide: 0, 418,000, Antimony Sb/kg bw/day. Antimony Trioxide: 0, Antimony Trioxide: 0, Antimony Trioxide: 0, Antimony Sb/kg bw/day. Antimony Trioxide: 0, Antimony Trioxide all dose:

Metallic

hepatic cords.

The LOAEL is higher than t NOAEL from Poon et al. (1998) that t LOAEL: 418,000 COT determi μg Sb/kg was the bw/day. appropriate point of departure to use as the ba of a HBGV fo antimony.

BW gain decreased for all.

The weight of the rats of each 1.0%-Sb and 1.0%-Sb2O3 groups was lighter than that of 0.1%-Sb group.

Recovery animalincreased in weight up to the normal level. **Dose:** Metallic Some significant changes of the organ weight and the ratio between organ weight and body weight of the

rats, after the administration of Sb and Sb2O3;

1.0%-Sb: decreased haemtocrit.

0.1%-Sb: no changes in Hb, AST and albumin to globulin ratio. 0.1%-Sb: increased ALT.

1.0%-Sb: decreased total protein levels; High concentrations of antimony were found in liver,

The NOAEL is higher than t NOAEL from Poon et al. (1998) that t COT determi was the appropriate point of departure to use as the ba of a HBGV fo

antimony.

700,000 μg

Sb/kg bw/day.

Original

Species:

Route of

Study

weeks.

12 weeks

recovery.

No/Sex: 12

males per

group.

exposure:

Oral-Feeding.

Wistar rats.

Antimony:

0.1% (w/w), 1.0% (w/w) o.

Antimony Trioxide: 1.0% (w/w).

duration: 12 Recalculated **Dose Levels:**

> Metallic Antimony: 85,000, 850,000 μg Sb/kg bw/day.

Antimony

Hiraoka (1986)

> Trioxide: 700,000 μg Sb/kg bw/day.

Maternal and fetal body weights were reduced in the high-dose group (18% and 10%, respectively, at $300,000 \mu g$ Sb/kg/day).

Embryo lethality was also observed in this dose group (decreased number of live fetuses).

Original **Dose:** 0, 75, 150, 300 mg SbV/kg bw/day Subcutaneous Meglumine antimoniate.

Recalculated

Dose Levels:

0, 75,000,

150,000 or

300,000 µg

Sb/kg/day.

The frequency of dilated ureter was increased in fetuses from the 150,000 and 300,000 μg Sb/kg/day dose groups.

Skeletal variations were also seen in the mid- and highdose groups (misaligned sternebrae, supernumerary ribs, misshapened basiooccipital bone).

Transplacental

The LOAEL is higher than t NOAEL from Poon et al. (1998) that t COT determi was the appropriate point of departure to use as the ba of a HBGV fo antimony.

75,000 μg

Sb/kg/day.

Miranda et al. (2006)

Study duration:

injection.

Species:

Route of

exposure:

Wistar rats.

GD1 - 20.

No/Sex: 19-

21/group.

transfer of antimony was confirmed by

Absolute and relative liver weights were increased by approximately 10% in female rats fed 20,000 ppm antimony trioxide; Elevated red cell count in highdose male rats (+4%) and a decreased mean cell volume in high-dose female rats (-2%); Triglyceride content was increased (+30%) and alkaline phosphatase activity was decreased (-12%) in highdose male rats. High-dose female rats exhibited an increase in plasma cholesterol (+13%), a decrease in

Species: Wistar rats.

Route of exposure:

Oral-Feeding.

Study duration: 90 Hext et al. days.

(1999)

No/Sex: 12 Males per group.

Original Dose: 0, 1,000, 5,000, 20,000 ppm antimony trioxide.

Recalculated **Dose Levels:** Males: 0, 70,000,

353,000, 1,408,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day.

Famalaci O

phosphatase activity (-36%) and an increase in aspartate aminotransferase Sb/kg bw/day activity (+52%). **Alkaline**

phosphatase

alkaline

1,408,000 μg Sb/kg bw/day (male rats) and 1,570,000 μg (female rats).

higher than t NOAEL from Poon et al. (1998) that t COT determi was the appropriate point of departure to use as the ba of a HRGV fo

The NOAELs

At the highest dose, MA reduced the birth weight and the number of viable newborns.

In the male offspring, MA did not impair development (somatic, reflex maturation, weight gain, puberty onset, female Wistar Original Dose: open field test), 0, 75, 150, 300 sperm count, or

reproductive performance.

Except for a minor effect on $150,000 \mu g$ Recalculated body weight gain SbV/kg bw/day. exploration in the open field, MA also did not affect the

development of female offspring.

the Sb levels in the blood of MAtreated female rats and their offspring demonstrated that Sb is transferred to the fetuses via the placenta and The dose wa given via subcutaneou injection therefore thi study was no used for the determination of the appropriate NOAEL for or antimony

consumption

Species:

Pregnant rats.

Route of exposure: Subcutaneous injection.

Study duration:

Coelho et

al. (2014)

Gestation Day 0-PND 21.

No/Sex: Control - 14; Treatment -16 per dose.

Dose Levels: and vertical

mg SbV/kg

bw/day of

meglumine

antimoniate.

0, 75,000, 150,000, 300,000 μg SbV/kg bw/day.

Measurements of

to the suckling pups via milk.

Reduction (P < 0.05) in foetal birth weight and litter size was observed as compared to the control.

High dose of SSG & MA: - Death of all animals before completion of the treatment; Skeletal anomalies were restricted to the formation of a rudimentary 14th rib.

Haematoma was only seen in the extremities of foetuses born to antimony treated animals.

Treatment of pregnant rats with SSG (30,000 μg Sb/kg) daily for 10 successive days, starting on day 6 of gestation, exhibited a 5.9%

Original Dose foetal resorption Levels:

rate. This effect seems to be dose dependent

1. Sodium Stibogluconate as doses of **Species:** (SSG): 30,000, 100,000 and Sprague

Original dose:

1.Antimony Potassium

Tartrate group: 27.4 mg/kg body weight.

2.Low-Antimony

Species: trioxide group: Wistar rats,

CD-1 mice.

12 mg/kg body

weight

3.High-

1. Three mice (1 control, 2 given

exposure: Oral-gavage

Route of

Antimony trioxide group: gavage error;

 $1,200,000 \mu g/kg$ day) died due to

feeding.

1,200 mg/kg body weight. Sperm

Study Omura et duration: 4 Recalculated

parameters were

not affected by

neither

dose levels: compounds and

histopathology

results were

negative.

al. (2002)

No/Sex: Rats: 1.Antimony

Mice: 8-10 per

7 to 8 per

group.

weeks.

Tartrate group: essentially

 $10,000 \mu g$

Potassium

Sb/kg bw/day.

group.

2.Low-Antimony

trioxide group:

 $10,000 \mu g$

Sb/kg bw/day.

3. High-

Antimony trioxide group:

1,000,000 μg

Sb/kg bw/day.

The NOAEL is higher than t NOAEL from Poon et al. (1998) that t COT determi was the appropriate point of departure to use as the ba of a HBGV fo

antimony.

1,000,000 μg

Sb/kg bw/day.

			were noted. Fetal body weights remained unchanged.	
Belyaeva (1967)	Species: Rats (not specified). Route of exposure: Inhalation. Study duration: 1.5-2 months, 4 hours/day. No/Sex: 10-24/group.	Original Dose: 0 and 209,000 µg Sb/m³ antimony trioxide. Recalculated Dose Levels: 0 and 209,000 µg Sb/m³.	Unspecified lesions were reported in the lungs, liver, kidneys, and pancreas. Reproductive effects, including failure to conceive and uterine metaplasia, were observed. However, a decrease in fertility and reduced number of offspring was found in rats exposed to 209 mg Sb/m³ of antimony trioxide before conception and during gestation.	209,000 μg Sb/m ^{3.}

No changes in

body weight gain

The dose wa

used for the

determination

appropriate NOAEL for or

consumption

antimony

of the

given via inhalation therefore thi study was no

REACH registration dossier submitted to ECHA (2014)	Species: Sprague- Dawley rats. Route of exposure: Oral-Drinking water. Study duration: Gestation days 6-19. No/Sex: 2 females per dose.	Original Dose: 0, 100, 300 and 1000 mg/kg bw/day sodium hexahydroxo- antimonate. Recalculated Dose Levels: 0, 49,000, 148,000, 493,000 µg Sb/kg bw/day.	significant) incidence in delayed skeletal development were observed in the mid and high dose groups. When considering skeletal malformations overall, incidence was observed in 99.3% to 100% of fetuses and 100% of litters including controls.	49,000 μg Sb/kg bw per day.	The NOAEL is higher than NOAEL from Poon et al. (1998) that is COT determ was the appropriate point of departure to use as the bof a HBGV for antimony.
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Increased (non-

Annex 1 to TOX/2025/23

Annex A Reference

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In this guide

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This is a draft position statement for discussion. This does not represent the views of the Committee and should not be cited.

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